THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Urban Transport being a State subject, it is for the State governments to formulate appropriate proposals for public transport systems in their cities. Under the proposed National Urban Transport Policy Government of India would encourage all large cities to develop city-specific plans for mass transit systems, using such technologies as are appropriate, keeping in view the likely demand and other techno-economic factors. Government would offer financial support in the form of equity or viability gap funding, subject to fulfilment of specified conditions.

Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Delhi already have rail based mass transit systems. Proposals have been received for expansion of the system in Mumbai and Delhi. A proposal has also been received for a rail based mass transit system for Bangalore.

National Urban Renewal Mission

*16. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Urban Renewal Mission, covering seven mega cities, 30 smaller cities and other important urban centres, would give a major boost to social housing and encourage the States to address the issues of repeal of the Urban Land Ceiling Act, the Rent Control Act and reduction in rates of stamp duty;

(b) if so, whether this proposal has been submitted to Government for its approval;

(c) if so, to what extent these proposals have given a boost to housing in the country; and

(d) whether National Urban Renewal Mission has been one of the most important features of development of these proposed cities?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) One of the objectives of National Urban Renewal Mission (NURM) covering 60 cities is to promote integrated development of slums through provision of shelter, basic services and other civic amenities with a view to providing utilities to urban poor. Grant of financial assistance for

these housing projects is proposed to be linked to undertaking of reforms by State/Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) which include repeal of Urban Land Ceiling & Regulation Act (ULCRA), reform of Rent Control Laws and reduction of stamp duty, etc. It is thus hoped that National Urban Renewal Mission (NURM) will on the one hand promote social housing, it will also encourage undertaking of reforms.

The proposal is yet to approved by the Government.

Vacant shops under Directorate of Estates

*17. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the shops belonging to Directorate of Estates lying vacant in New Delhi as on date indicating their reserve prices and since when these are lying vacant alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have any policy to allot shop to the retired Government employees on concessional rates and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to formulate such a policy as in the case of residential accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As on date nearly 109 shops are vacant in different localities of Delhi. The details of the shops, their minimum reserve price and the date from which they are lying vacant are given in the Statement (*See below*).

The shops have been vacant for variety of reasons including poor response to repeated tenders, vacation by allottees on their own, eviction under rules on account of breach of the terms of licence, reconsideration of the existing policy of tendering to be replaced by auction to realize optimum value for the shops in a more transparent manner.

(b) and (c) The minimum reserve price quoted in the tender is worked on the basis of institutional land rates instead of commercial land rates, which in itself is a concession provided by the Government with a view to cater to the needs of residents of Government colonies where these